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Editorial Reception-Room
Park to TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1801.

WORLD'S-1903-FAIR.

VEST'S SUCCESSOR.

Senator Vest again repeats his intention to go out of public life at the ent time. expiration of his present term of office. choosing his successor must new be cone said to be

fronted as imperative. This is not a duty to be discharged lightly. The high distinction of Vest's services in the United States Senate demands that the Missourian elected to in character and ability.

Senators. The standard set must be place as the colleague of Cockrell must be intellectually and morally of the lying in detailing these transactions. Nest and Cockrell enliber.

Missouri Democracy is fortunate iti having no lack of excellent material from which to choose. De Armond, Stone, Wallace, Champ Clark and the other Democrats mentioned as probable candidates have ably and faithfully served the people of their native State.

There need be no fear of no unworthy successor to George Graham West being named by the next State Legislature. The task now faced by Missouri Democracy is that of selecting the best of numerous good men fixed by nature and training for the high office soon to be made vacant by the retirement of Senator Vest.

HOLIDAY TRADE

With the authorized agencies still chronicling a steady increase of business in nearly every important line of ing of surpassing extent, the certainty ing them. of a record-breaking "holiday trade" is assured.

The extent of this trade naturally deeconomize in their holiday purchases. by his own party?" They would be unwise not to do so. thoughtful fells.

and this healthy prosperity extends to have the natural desire of individuals is to be generous in holiday buying. The season is one that makes a distinctive appeal to every one. There is an especial pleasure in becoming one of the shopping throng and indulging freely in the luxury of purchasing gifts and beautiful remembrances for kinsfolk and friends The wish to celebrate prosperity in this manner is human and commendable.

The prospect for the holiday trade of 1901 is of unusual brightness. The great retail marts of the country are preparing to meet an exceptional deof the most prosperous of American cities, the approaching holiday season will be a gala time indeed. A happy and well-to-do community cannot do better than to thus commemorate a year of good luck and brightening fortunes. The area of prosperity is widened by the very increase of holiday shopping due to prosperity.

IN ITS OWN HANDS.

Speaker Kelly of the House of Delegates pledged himself, on accepting that office, to fulfill faithfully to the best of his ability the promises made to the people of St. Louis by the Democratic party and to devote his most earnest effort to service for the welfare of the community.

Common fairness demands that Speak this voluntary guarantee of an honest performance of his plain duty. He is entitled to public confidence until he shall have proved himself unworthy of that confidence. There is no just reason why the shortcomings or the misdeeds of the House of Delegates in the past should be used as a basis of attack on or belittlement of the new Speaker. He should be allowed to establish his own record.

During the days immediately preced ing the resignation of former Speaker Cronin the House of Delegates took commendable action for the general good, passing many bills for municipal ludes? improvements, the obstruction of which would have meant much of injury to the New St. Louis and the World's Fair community. The evidence thus sub- will be there. The machine will be mitted went to prove that there was represented. But, as for outlining edino longer a House Combine organized to torial policy, the meeting will be a farce prevent or delay needed legislation. Unless the continued existence of such a Combine shall be revealed by a resumption of Combine tactics in the House there is no fair warrant for a refusal to believe in the determination of the members of that body to properly transact the public business for which

they were elected to office. The people of St. Louis are willing to They will not be disposed to believe following the Civil War. basty insinuations impugning the good faith of the House unless those instnu-

established.

SLANDER MILL.

Missouri is growing tired of the camthat have been preferred. The allegaat the point where caution about truth render a correct and satisfactory acgives way to that possion for injuring count of this important debt." the Commonwealth which has narked the Globe for years.

The Republic has consistently de- period. To quote the recent report: fended the integrity of Democratic adtelulstration by giving exact figures taken from the records of the State, and Extend to the Post Office in St. Leave. No. as by pointing out the errors and in the spatial state of the Post Office in St. Leave. No. as by pointing out the errors and in the calculations of the Globe. Demonstration that the "inhulations" of the Globe have been manufactured has called forth the following characteristic Globe. paragraph:

above these who proceed to see it the exist-

In the language of the street, rotten ness in business affairs, means embezalemeta. The person who speaks in this manner usually has the facts to prove the accusation, something that the Globe has been unable to give up to the pres-

Attention is directed to another of He informs the people of Missouri the anonymous calumniators by referfinally and definitely that the duty of ring to the "Old Politician," who is

He heat seems to be made of an accomment leads big take-off of an the Government bends belonging to the public schools of Mis-

"Rake-off" has but one meaning. If succeed him shall be of the first class any official has been guity of profiting by the sale of bonds he should be Missouri has been fortunate in her branded by the courts as a criminal. maintained. The man who takes Vest's Politician," plant arithmetic demonstrates that he is either ignorant or

And so day by day the fair fame of or form. this State is besmirched by allegations of "crookedness," "rottenness" and Truke-offs."

Defenders of Missouri's honor are honest figures and above-board methods. When the Globe is asked to give "inbulations" regarding alleged discrepancies over the name of some reputable authority in the commercial world abuse is turned loose on these who luquire. When attention is directed to the fact that the Globe has utterly abandoned its original specific charges an effort is made to set aside these issues by utterly ignoring them.

is it not about time that these slanders cease? The malice and ignorance displayed in spreading the calumnies abroad are appreciated by people conversant with the facts. Their concommerce and industry, the present tinuance hurss nothing but the outside volume of mercantile transactions be- repute of the State and the paper mak-

MORE GARRIANG.

The Globe asks: "Does Governor Dock pends to a peculiar degree upon the con- ery defame Missouri when he assails dition of the people. If there has been the honesty of the State bookkeeping a year of depression and stagnation the from 1865 to 1872, and admits that the one thing certain is that individuals will discrepancies were subsequently carried

The Governor has never made any They would also be acting contrary to such charge. On the contrary, he said indebtedness to the certificate form of their own impulse. Dollars difficult to in the address to the people of the State indebtedness was in exact harmony carn are not to be spent ensity by that nearly all of the officials connected with the Constitution. No eminent conwith the State administrations from But when the country is prosperous January 1, 1865, to December 31, 1872, them. The Globe-Democrat is alone. passed away, and would be recreant to honor and to the facts as shown by the books if I should by inference impute dishonesty to them, It is true that there was negligent bookkeeping," etc.

This excerpt from the letter of the Governor answers the Globe without further comment or suggestion.

WHAT DOES HE EXPECT?

Another effort to organize the Repub lican editors of Missouri will be made in St. Joseph during the last days of this week. If the vigorous attempts of the State Republican Committee to have a large representation is success ful another dent will be made in the Kerens machine.

Already there are signs that the majority of Republican editors throughout the State are heartily tired of being used for factional purposes. One country Republican paper in referring to the meeting says that doubtless a few schemers will be on hand with resolutions covering every selfish interest in the party. So far as Republican organization of editors is concerned this paper remarks that the decent element of the country press is opposed to assisting in building up a machine that shall dictate

to every small weekly in Missouri. Yet what would this simple editor have? Does he expect that Kerens or his successor as the controlling faction st will submit to a free expression of opinion by the Republican press? What does he regard as the duty of a Republican editor in this State except to vouch for all the actions of the machine

in power? Unless this independent editor choose to remain out in the cold, he will find his interests served by getting into the band wagon that will be started at St. Joseph. Of course, he will have to obey the dictates of a favored few. but that is his duty. If he should happen to want the local post office. what chance would be stand unless be had turned over his columns to landstions of the schemers to whom he al

The St. Joseph meeting is for the pur pose of crushing independent Republic an thought in Missouri. The schemet The burning thoughts of the next few months will be furnished free of charge by the men who control the ple.

1865-1871.

of the Globe-Democrat fluishes garbling the statement of the Governor and Auditor, interest might be added to the present controversy by the issuance of credit Speaker Kelly and the House of a certificate of merit to the Republican Delegates for every act deserving credit, administrations that controlled Missouri

To date the Globe has refused to dis cuss this interesting period of Missouri's ations are supported by the conduct of history. Except to declare that these

mands fair play to this extent. The served the State the Globe simply for-Speaker and his fellow Delegates should gets to remember some salient facts in be judged on their merits as now to be connection with their conduct of the finances.

To prevent any possibility of the Globe throwing a halo around this period let the findings of the expert accountants paign of slander which the Globe-Demo | employed by the Governor and Auditor crat is carrying on against honored be mentioned. Auditor Thompson in Democratic officials, dead and alive. 1866, referring to the war debt, said: There has been no scruple in the charges | "No data have been furnished to the Auditor's office. I am, therefore, untions of wrongdoing reached and stay able, bowever much I regret it, to

fremized, some of the balances discov ered by the experts threw light on this

The payment of \$25,000 to the Railroad builting Fund 19ch, the disposition of which is not make char, although the tulinner will oropped from the levels. The parment of \$50.71.25 for banks for

The increased of Section 19 forms to strain States of the master produced or dispersion of a strain of section 19 for sundice, without explanation as to details.

A partner of \$1.55,50 in made through the National Bank of Commerce in New York. the State's Soul agent, for compens, shown on the State books, but not on any bank statement width could be located. It is por sible that the Pand Commissioners deposit the many with the bank for the payment here enquire, which were returned cameries vittent an accompanying statement; but un examination of the bank's recents in New York does not show the receipt or disburse

Dies of this money.

The pursuent of \$22,381.66 on account of defense warrants and Union Military bonds, in atthough the Auditor's report of the State geld of December 31, 1879, clid not show any

The appregate of these itemized balances is quite a respectable total for a professional advocate to ignore, as the Globe has ignored the subject.

This aggregate of \$2,400,428 is aside from the amount of the first certificate of indebtedness that was issued in 1872 to cover a deficit made during this period, as an expert of the Globe has declared. The certificate was for \$900, Yet, taking the figures of the "Old 600. Added to the other sum, Missourians have \$3,330,428 a total which the Globe in its auxiety to shift the issue has refused to discuss in any shape

We again challenge the Globe to prove its four charges, to which we have heretofore referred. These charges can only be established by names which termed similarers because they insist on have a reputation for truth and for honesty in this community. Common slanderers will not be accepted as competent witnesses.

> About the smallest exhibition of petty partisanship—there have been many-The Republic has ever noted in a political journal, is the intimation on the part of the Globe-Democrat that the typographical error made by the printer in line 30, page 33, of the official namphlet on Missouri finances was intentional and made for the purpose of concealing some fact in connection with the School Fund. These pamphlets are in the possession of the people, and any honest man will put the proper estimate upon the Globe's coward y innuendo.

Ten days have passed anonymous expert of the Globe-Demo crat finishing his job of "investigating" the figures of Messrs. Haskins and Sells. Let's see. Did not the Globe complain because the Auditor took more than a week to go over all the books and vouchers and records of the State?

Present Federal officeholders practically unanimous in indorsing National Committeeman Kerens as the bright particular star of Missouri Re publicanism. Such indorsements will probably receive the consideration due them by the President, who professes to believe in merit and honesty only.

Chlcago schemers are working to or ganize a Union Labor party. This is conclusive evidence that a new generation has control of affairs. Also that they have not read the history of a former Union Labor party.

After dealing with theories for several months the members of the Municipal Ownership party in St. Louis have got down to practical affairs. The first evidence of this fact is a desire to know about the campaign funds.

Governor Van Sant of Minnesota has announced his determination to fight the new railroad combination. This means a lot of work for his typewriter and very little for the courts.

Primary elections are the vital points in politics. The citizen who does not register will not be able to take part in the next one unless his name is on the primary books.

Coroner Funkhouser's verdict of negligence in the tetanus antitoxin cases seems to call for Mayoralty action that shall lessen the danger of a repetition of

"Rat-holes" in the tabulations of the Globe-Democrat are interesting as a study in mathematical gymnastics. A slight error of \$762,643 is such a small "rat-hole" that the Globe ignores it en-

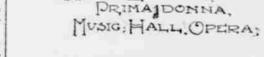
That new woman's club in New York will have to get a liberal collection of kitties before it will be "just like a

That highwayman who held up a St. Louis physician learned too late that the local medico was capable of administering mighty bad medicine.

Another Oklahoma man will be Gov ernor of the Territory. There are still a few "political sooners" who have not been mentioned for the place.

The anonymous expert of the Globe Democrat has figured that 141-2 per cent of \$1,671,600 is \$748,798-a "rathole" of \$506,532.

of Indians the Globe-Democrat has left the House. The present situation de- officials were the best who have ever the Kerens and Ziegenhein camp.



THE SEASON'S OPERA BEGAN

ANNA LIGHTER

The opening of the opera season at Musle Hall last night was notable for the slee and interest of the audience and for the absence of most of the generally ex-

WITH SPIRIT LAST NIGHT.

pected first-night flaws.

Of these there were few, Every detail of stage management was as well in hand as if the opera had been run two or three weeks. The chorus seemed to know its business; there was no awkward raising of hands without recession no undue watch. hands without occasion, no undue watch-ing of the conductor, when there was some-

Indeed, the chorus was a revelation is this respect. There was yet another thing, Those of us who had come to believe that Mr. Edward Peerless Temple of all men knew the art of managing a stage, found out that there is another—this one from San Francisco, where he has had a broad experience, by all accounts. Certainly, he did well enough on the opening night.

All of these facts first because, you know, a bad chorus and in-ffective stage manage-ment spell disaster for any kind of opera. A musical sharp made the statement at the end of one of the acts last night that all of the music that Leoncavallo and Mascagni knew had its start in the opera of "La Cia

Of course this is by no means so, but if t worth while to bring out the idea that the opera, which is not known here at all, re-sembles in some respects the newer things that we have had from the pens of the two men named and from the better pen of Puc-

season by Mr. Savage. Miss Graham was in most excellent voice last night, and this is to say much for her. Her part to-night will be sung by Miss Linck, another of the

Miss Anna Lichter, whose German accent is worth going around the block to hear, was a charming newcomer. Her voice is high and not too musical, but she is so pleasingly energetic and that one forgets faults that may be. Mr. Achilli Alberti is a barytone who in

sists in singing the language of Sunny Italy, although his voice is good and his training excellent. Consequently, we for got to haugh at the "Always-in-English" ine that stared at us from the programm while he sang.

Gioconda." There are a particularly entranc-ing trio in the first act and a quintet of original power and beauty in the third. The tenor has a capital aria in the second and interspersed with astonishing liberality there are delightful bits for each of the principals. There is a chorus background to some of the big numbers for the principals particularly in Act III, that is a tonal

To-night we are to have Miss Ricci in place of Miss Lichter; Mr. Shuster in place of Mr. Clarke, who did not sustain his repu-tation last night, and Mr. Avedano in place of Mr. Gordon.

OPERA HAS FASHIONABLE AUDIENCE FIRST NIGHT.

Society is disposed to look with much favor upon Mr. Southwell's third venture of opera in English, if the crush at Music Hall last night is any criterion. Long before the overture commenced opera lovers and habitues of the place for the previous two seasons were thronging into seats crawding the foyer and chatting with friends in boxes and stalls. Socially as well as musically the night

was a great success Mr. and Mrs. Henry Scars came early and offied friends in the lobby. Mr. and Mrs. August Schmidt of the

South Side were in parquet seats.

Mr. and Mrs. Bass Henderson brought
Miss Sparks of Webster. Mrs. Louis Marion McCall and Mrs. William E. Ware had a box with a party of la-dies. Mrs. McCall wore black velvet and Mice Marie Peugnet came with her step-

other, Mrs. Peugnet, Miss Stella Schnurmacher came with her father, Mr. Schnurmacher. Louis Woods came with a party of gen

Colonel Pengnet joined his party later. Mr. J. T. Alexander brought a party of Miss Jone Tobias, Miss Lilla Rockwood, and Thomas H. Rockwood were in the par-

Mrs. J. F. Conroy came with Mrs. L. M. Rumsey's party.
Miss Clara Swency and her brother, Hary Sweney, were in parquet scale,
Mme. Ricci, who sings to-night, came
with Miss Gardner, and sat in the rear.
Miss May Thomson came with friends,
Mr. and Mrs. John Janopoulo were in a

ox. Mrs. Janopoulo wore a very handsome own in two shades a frose-heliotrope, ap-diqued in cut velvet.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Bertram Cady had a box.

Miss Eloise Ware, who has just returned from New York, came with her father, Charles Ware. Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Morrill were in parquet seats.
Mr. and Mrs. Slaughter and Miss Slaugh-

ter were in the foyer.

Mrs. J. Ernest Southwell entertained a
box party with Miss Margaret Tichner, Mr. Wright, Mr. Waller Edwards and Miss Lulu Duncan of Kansas City as her guests, J. Allen Wheat came with friends. Mr. and Mrs. Adolphus Busch had a box

with Mr. and Mrs. August Busch and Mr. "BEN-HUR" WINS THE FAVOR Miss A. E. Franst.
Miss Irwin Hayward came with John
Stafford White.
Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Wyman and Mr.

ELLA MORTIMER WHO PLAYS

ESTHER, IN BEN: HUR -

and Mrs. John Waterworth, Jr., were together.
Others in the audience were: Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Curtice, Miss Tekla Bernays, Ductor and Mrs. Willard Bartlett, Miss Mildred Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Griesedieck, Detlef von der Lippe, Mr. and Mrs. August Geh-ner and Miss Gehner, Frank Seward with

a party of friends, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Blanke, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Elder, Mrs. Lilian Emory and A. C. Wegman, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph G. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Titimann, Mrs. A. D., Giannini, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Alos, Edwin S. Puller and Miss Hallard, Mrs. Louise Coriey.

OFFERINGS.

200

MR. THOMAS S. MAFFITT AND MISS SARAH PIERCE WED.

Miss Sarah Jane Pierce, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Pierce, No. 603 Lindell boulevard, and Mr. Thomas Skinker Maffitt, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Chouteau Maffitt, No. 291 Washington ave-Such distinguished Missourians and lawyers as Governors Charles H. Hardin, John S. Phelps, R. Gratz Brown, Silas Woodson, Thomas T. Heroman and all their successors in office who were eminent in the legal profession, were of the opinion that the school funds from the bond form of indebtedness to the certificate form of indebtedness to the certificate form of indebtedness was in exact harmony with the Constitution. No eminent constitutional lawyer has contradicted them. The Globe-Democrat is alone.

The name and and from the better pen of Pucchin, who were will overly the dink, who were "La Boheme," so well loved the contradicted the service of the company that Mr. Southwell has as Methodist Church, the ceremony being performed at 8 o'clock by the Reverend Doctor. The little tenor Gordon, who has been aired in these columns as a first-class man with little ability to act, has come up wonderfelly.

Not only did he act last night, but be showed veice quality of the best sort, and in the matter of volume he was simply astemishing. I should unhesitatingly place findebtedness to the certificate form of indebtedness was in exact harmony with the Constitution. No eminent constitutional lawyer has contradicted them. The Globe-Democrat is alone.

The ompany that Mr. Southwell has as Methodist Church, the ceremony being performed at 8 o'clock by the Reverend Doctor. The little tenor Gordon, who has been aired in the test of the little tenor Gordon, who has been aired in the test of the little tenor Gordon, who has been aired in the test of the persentation to honor, meaning white creps and lace and the bouque of illies of the valley. Her younger son of Mr. Savage and especially with the one central figure of the better pen of Pucches, and the lost of the little tenor Gordon, who has been aired in the test of the little tenor Gordon, who has the name to over thing the wholes Church, the ceremony being period to the contradiction to the best of the little tenor Gordon among the best of the persentation to the production of

man, while the ushers and gro Samuel Cupples Pierce, the bride's brother, of Colorado; Edward Pierce, whose mar-riage to Miss Anne Curry will take place next week; Claude Kennerly, Oliver Richards, James Magee of Pittsburg, Ord Preston of New York, Carroll Sweet of Granu Rapids, Mich., Louis Stoddard of New Haven, Conn., Guy Wellman of New York, Charles Welles of Scranton, Pa., and Sul-livan Ames of Providence, R. I. Invitations o the church were general, but the recep ion guests at the house afterwards wer imited to relatives and a few intimate

Boston, where they will witness the Yaie-Harvard football game on Saturday. They will tour the East for awhile, return to St. Louis the last of December and go to housekeeping at No. 322 Newstead avenue.

A card party was given yesterday after noon at Mahler's, Lucas avenue, by Mrs. Charles Lindenschmit, assisted by her sis-ter, Mias Emma Breidenbach, Six-handed euchre for the majority of the guests and lotto for those who preferred it were the diversions provided, followed by an elabo-rate spread.

rate spread.

The decorations were green and white, much smilax being used. Mrs. Lindenschmit was gowned in lavender velour, trimmed with face, and Miss Breidenbach in pale-blue brocaded satin, trimmed in Chuny lace. Assisting in receiving the guests were Mrs. T. G. Comstock and Miss Blanche Eddy. The Misses Sue and May Dreas, Lottie Brockman and Miss Dalay Deltering, who handled the punches, were all attired in white.

Misses— Louise Woestman, Louise Woestman, Julia Dieckman, Adele Ziegenhein, Carrie Manewal, E. Wipperman, Katherine White, Birdie Schaefer, Adele Miller, Katherine Ziegen; Spiegelhalter, Louise Conzelman, Selma Johannius, Bertha Lohse. Estelle Rupterle.
Estelle Rassleur,
Carrie Solan,
Clara Pisse,
Nettle Zimmerma
Annie Eckhardt,
Ida Rueckert,
Lena Rueckert,
Lillie Manewal,
Clara Krutseeb Jara Krutzs Bertha Schmieding Ida Yaeger, Bertha Schlossstein Edith Lubke. itetta Guhman ilirdie Wetzei, Laura Lubke. na Kortkamp ristelle Crone. Jolia Hartung, Elsa Bock, Sophie Hager, Clara Gerhard. Maria I. Johnston
J. B. Weestman,
Adam Flickinger,
E. L. Buschman,
M. Keber,
I. Kaminski,
Gustav Cramer,
F. M. Morrison,
F. Cuth,
Albert C. Trebus,
A. Bartel,
J. Walter,
Joseph Barr,
George Roth,
F. W. Drosten,
f. Shultz,
C. N. Pereing,
James C. Sharp,

unie Maune, iiu Gockel, Hager, ra Russieur, Woestman, W. Eggers,

cuis Hammerstein L. A. Koettig. H. Lucas, F. Riesmeyer,

H. Green,
J. Frank,
R. Schmitz, Jr.,
H. J. Sparks,
Rudolph Schmitz,
J. F. Cummings,
J. Smith Mrs. Arthur Gale and Miss Gale have sent out eards for a tea on Thursday aft-ernoon. November 21, for Miss Lucy Scud-

ames C. Sharp. L. Brandt. Tugo Hammerstein L. F. Spencer, Tary Wissman,

harles H. Heke, harles Stickel B. Woodward, J. H. Green,

Mrs. Franklin Armstrong will give a t for her daughter, Miss Adele Armstrong, and the class of 1992, Mary Institute, on Thursday afternoon, November 28, at the Armstrong residence, No. 4210 Delmar boule-

OF A BIG OLYMPIC AUDIENCE.

An audience which filled the Olympic Theater from pit to gailery witnessed the opening production of "Ben-Hur" last night the beginning of a three weeks' senson in St. Louis, and passed a judgment so un-mistakably favorable that there could not easily be an appeal therefrom, It seemed to me that the house differed

from the ordinary first-night gathering of local playgoers in the character of its per-sonnel. The dramatization of General Lew Wallace's great religious novel appeals potently to a class which is not commonly in evidence on occasions dramatic. Just as the novel itself received its heaviest and most permanent support from other than habitual novel readers, so the play has thus far called largely to this same following If I am not mistaken, the "Ben-Hur" en-gagement in St. Louis will, in this wise, repeat its record in New York and Chicago In the advance notices of this production great stress has been laid upon the achieve-ment scored in dramatizing a novel dealing so intimately with sacred things, and eswhose the race against his Roman rival, Mes-sala. The stamp of a great success was placed upon the production by the local re-

during which the vivid picture is present-ed to the eye it was obviously the determi-nation of the people in front to outdo the tumult on the stage. The effort was emi-nently successful. Before that moment the play had made reasonably good its claim as one of the notable dramatic triumphs of its time. After the verdict then passed by the house, the fact of a tremendous popular uccess could no longer be doubted. There are many admirable picture-effects legifimately secured by the scenic artistry of "Bea Hur." These are found in he desert scene of the prelude, in the strikingly original presentation of the intoiling at the oars, in the pagan delicacy of the holiday ceremonies in the grove of Daphne and before the Temple of Apollo. n the surpassingly beautiful moonlight scene by the lake near the orchard of palms, and finally the closing picture of Mount Olivet, the scene of the Miracle and of the production's greatest peril, averted

ception of this scene. For the brief time

by the reverential device of the shaft of pure light, indicating the presence of the Savior. These, the most notable spectacular effects, with the exception of the chariet race, which is the play's supremest achievenent, won the instant favor of the house They are mentioned for their eminence as thus passed upon by popular verdict. Al-ways, nowever, it must be kept in mind that the climax and crowning success of the p'ay is the chariot race, just as that race was the breathless heart and soul of the brok itself. A cast of exceptional numerical propor-tions is further supported by an army of mameless characters that must make the pay roll of "Ben-Hur" something staggering

to contemplate. Of the players, Mr. Wil-liam Farnum's Ben-Hur was appropriately youthful, earnest and playsically attractive. The Simonides of Mr. Henry Jewett was an impressive and venerable figure. Miss Ella Mortimer made of the part of Eather, the laughter of Simenides, a gentle and loyable presentation. I beg to commend the Iras of Miss Sylvia Lynden as so seductively Egyptian as to mark that young woman for the Fanny Davenport role of Cleopatra with a sign-manual not to be disregarded by destiny. George Alison as Messala, the Homan rival of the Jew. Ben-Hur, had the correct conception of the mingled haughtiness and profligacy of the part. The others

insures a success of the three weeks seg-son if all signs dramatic do not fail. The production has caught the popular fancy production has eau beyond all question.

Last afternoon and evening's audiences at the Columbia were no exceptions to the crowded-house rule at that theater, when the new bill was put on for the week. The Sherry Matthews and Norma Whalley Company, as it might be called (for there are four in the cast, and the parts are well balanced), quite came up to expectations, giving a sketch which contained a good deal of everything and lasted fully forty-five minutes. A mere thread of plot there was upon which hung two rivals, one an apparently genuine "chappie" and the other penniless, though resourceful, lawyer; also a funny old client of the lawyer; a tragedy burlesque, a male duet and trio, two well-rendered solos by Miss Whalley, and even a and, not omitting the drum. Hallen and band, not omitting the drum. Hallen and Fuller introduced a variation of the familiar mistaken-identity plot, which, however, was soon cleared away. The skit was amusing. Castellat and Hall appeared in "The Fried From Wall Street." which, though seen here before, is good and causes many laughs. White and Simmons present a black-face sketch, in which a ghost plays a part, and which is undeniably funny. Rome and Ferguson's number is not ex-

MARY SHAW AD AMRAHIM

actly suited to the tasts of Columbia audiences. However, she does some meritorious high kicking. Angle Norton is an agreeable entertainer and made a decided hit. She closed her act by quoting Leigh Hunt's "Abou Ben Adhem," in honor of the late President. James H. Cullen's "I Thought of Another One" still wears, and his joke book, though old, sounds new. With a few other constants. other numbers, the programme satisfying evening's entertainment.

WELL-KNOWN PERSONS WITNESSED "BEN-HUR."

That "Ben-Hur" would draw not only the regular theatergoers, but many persons who do not attend theatrical performances in general, was a foregone conclusion. Audiences of the performance in other ci-ties have been of this character, and issa-night's gathering at the Olympic Theater proved the rule. Persons of the elder generation were present in large numbers, and the audience was one of the distinctively representative and characteristic ones of

box with a party of ladies. Mrs. Harding wore ecru silk, appliqued in lace. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Garrison and Mr.

and Mrs. George P. Jones were together in the middle parquet.

Miss Ida Crouch, in white face, sat with

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Orthwein had a stage box. Mrs. Orthwein were white crepe and lace, with a white velvet hat, wreathed in white camellas and green foliage.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Griesedieck sat with friends in the front circle.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Loader and Miss Loader, with her escort, were in the circle. Mrs. Leader were pink and black, while Miss Loader was in paie blue liberty crepe and lace. Mr. and Mrs. John Schroers, Miss Klemm

and her escort sat together.

Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury Busch sat in the Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury Busch sat in the circle not far from Miss Beers and Miss (Matide Anderson. Mrs. Busch was in pink crepe de Chine with a pink rose in her hair. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Taylor were in circle seats, Mrs. Taylor wearing pale blue. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lambert and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Koehler, Jr., were a quartet of Cabanne friends together.

Joseph Buse and W. F. Schlange came together.

gether. Mr. and Mrs. James Bright were guests in Mr. and Mrs. Sam Thompson were in th

right parquet. Mrs. Thompson were ecru, creps and lace, touched with pale blue.

Miss Edna Fischel came with Clarence Taussig. George Andrews came with two men friends. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leaby were just behind

the Koehlers. Mrs. Leahy wore pale oluc tucked erep Mr. and Mrs. Walter Boogher, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wilson and Miss Julia Wilson sat together in the central parquet. Alfred Robyn brought Miss Elma Rumse;

who were gray crepe, with pink velvet and touches of black. Others in the audience were: Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Whittemore, Miss Estelle Bushman, R. Park von Wedelstaedt, Miss Virginia Lee, and her escort, James and Benjamin O'Fal-ion, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Richards, who were next the Whittemeres; Miss Lucile Hop-kins and her excert, Mr. and Mrs. John Drummond, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Blossom, Mr. and Mrs. Kimber, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Walker, Frank Howard, Colonel and Mrs. James G. Butler, Miss Louise Espenschied, Miss Emma Arnold, Edwin Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gregg, Cheffraix Lackland and

Proctor Knott's Rabbit Story.

Since the Sampson-Schley controversy has grown acute again there has been considerable reference to Proctor Knott's "rabbit story" in connection with the credit for the victory at Santiago. For the benefit of those who do not recall the story as first printed, it is here reproduced: Ex-Governor Proctor Knott and John Yerkes were dis-cussing the claims of Sampson and Schley to the credit of smashing Cervera at Santiago. Mr. Yerkes took the ground that all the honor of that nemorable conflict beinged to Admiral Sampson, and was incined to entirely ignore Commodore Schley's part in the affair. The Governor listened until his companion had finished, and then, with characteristic twinkle in his eye, said: "My dear sir, it is exceedingly gratifying to me to hear you take the posi-tion you have in this matter. It is like a baim to my conscience and settles a point that has worried me many a day. I was walking through the woods once with a boy friend of mine when we saw a rabbit run inhabels. We stood around the hole into a sinkhole. We stood around the hole awhile, then I told the boy to keep watch while I went home to get some fire to smoke while I went nome to get some fire to smoke the rabbit out. When I returned the boy had the rabbit. I took it away from him, claiming that it belonged to me because I had told him to catch it if it came out. That was over fifty years ago, and you are the first man that has ever agreed with me that the rabbit was mine. I feel now that I was right in taking it, and my conscience is at rest." Mr. Yerkes looked solemn for a few moments, then smiled a feeble smile